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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/575,858	05/19/2000	Yoshinori Shimizu	450100-02472	1668

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EXAMINER

VENT, JAMIE J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2616

DATE MAILED: 12/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/575,858

Applicant(s)

SHIMIZU, YOSHINORI

Examiner

Jamie Vent

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 September 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7,9-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7,9-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-7,9-15,18-19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koyama et al (US 6,112,010) in view of Toriumi (US 6,062,868).

[claims 1 and 9]

In regard to Claims 1 and 9, Koyama et al discloses a reproducing apparatus and method for receiving contents data and index pictures corresponding thereto from a record medium or transmission medium (Figure 1), the picture frame sizes of the index pictures being smaller than the picture frame size of the contents data (Figure 10 step s16), displaying the index pictures on displaying means (Figure 4), and selecting contents data with the displayed index pictures (Figure 12), the reproducing comprising:

- First storing means for storing first index picture that is received (Figure 1 element 5 stores the index picture);

- Picture processing means for processing the first index picture data that is read from said first storage means (Figure 1 picture is read from storage element 5 and sent to the picture processing block element 3);
- Second storing means for storing second index picture data that is formed by said picture processing means and for outputting picture data to be displayed (Figure 1 element 6a stores playback information in the RAM); and
- Contents data receiving means for receiving different contents data recorded on different record media respectively (Figure 1 shows various data inputs into the system);
- Wherein index picture generated from different contents data which have different respective formats and are received from different record media respectively can be displayed together in respective picture frames having the same picture size (Column 15 Lines 35-50 describes the output of pictures generated in different formats); however lacks the recorded medium information is also displayed corresponding to index pictures.

Toriumi discloses a data transmitting system wherein recorded information is displayed. The information includes video, audio, and still pictures that are displayed to the user as shown in Figure 4. The use of showing still picture information with audio data further allows identification of the data file. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of

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ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the recording apparatus with still picture processing, as disclosed by Koyama et al, and further incorporate a system wherein the data transmitted corresponds to the index picture, as disclosed by Toriumi.

[claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14]

In regard to Claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14, Koyama et al discloses a reproducing apparatus and method wherein the picture processing comprises:

- converts the component format of the first index picture data(Figure 4 shows the apparatus while Figure 9 shows the method of formatting the index picture);
- Mono-chrome data generating source and adds mono-chrome data generated by the mono-chrome data generating source to the picture frame of the first index picture data in a frame shape and adds the mono-chrome data to the picture frame of the first index picture data so that pictures of different picture frame sizes are converted into pictures of the same picture size (Column 12 Lines 40+ disclose how mono-chrome data is entered as well as how pictures with different frame size is converted into pictures having the same frame size); and
- Enlargers or reduces the picture frame size of the first index picture data so that pictures of different picture frame sizes are converted into pictures of the same picture frame size (Figure 9. steps s4 enlarges or reduces the picture frame size while s6 determines that

there is enough room for recording and is discussed in Column 12
Lines 59+).

[claims 7 and 15]

In regard to Claims 7 and 15, Koyama et al discloses a reproducing apparatus and method wherein the first index picture data and second index picture are composed of first field and second field and the second index picture data is written to said second storing means, data of one of the first field and the second field that is not being displayed is written (Column 14 lines 1+ discuss how a first index picture data and second index picture are composed of the first and second field and the are stored as seen in Figure 6 and only the first picture images are displayed).

[claims 18 & 19]

In regard to Claims 18 and 19, Koyama et al discloses a reproducing apparatus; however, fails to disclose a user selects an index pictures, contents data corresponding to the selected index picture are reproduced and displayed. Toriumi discloses a system wherein data and index pictures are reproduced and displayed as the user selects the information as seen in Figure 6. The use of selection of the data through the still picture information allows the use an alternate method of selecting appropriate data files. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the reproducing apparatus, as disclosed by Koyama et al and further incorporate a system wherein the user selects the information from the use of still images, as disclosed by Toriumi.

Claims 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koyama et al (US 6,011,897) in view of Toriumi (US 6,062,868) in further view of Hoshi (US 5,943,102).

[claims 16 & 17]

In regard to Claims 16 and 17, Koyama et al in view of Toriumi discloses the recording apparatus output to a display, as seen in Figure 38 s137; however, fails to disclose that the type of output to be selected is either NTSC or PAL. Hoshi et al discloses an image data decoding method that compares information for display depending on resolution to be displayed. The information to be displayed has various display modes that can be selected, such as NTSC/PAL as disclosed in Column 12 Lines 42-55. Therefore, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the reproducing apparatus that generates index pictures for displaying and reproducing, as disclosed by Koyama et al in view of Toriumi, and incorporate an output type of NTSC or PAL depending on the display apparatus, as disclosed by Hoshi et al, which will allow for a better display of the index picture on the display.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact Fax Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jamie Vent whose telephone number is 571-272-7384. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on 571-272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


ROBERT CHEVALIER
PRIMARY EXAMINER